

Message Text

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71

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAL-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-20 USIE-00

INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DRC-01 /079 W

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O 122309Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9041

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PN PFOR

SUBJ: PRESS RELEASE OF SECRETARY OF ARMY.

1) SECRETARY OF ARMY PLANS ISSUE AFTER DEPARTURE FROM PANAMA PRESS RELEASE CONTAINED IN PARAGRAPH 2. I RECOMMENDED PRESS STATEMENT ALONG THIS LINE TO EMPHASIZE EXISTING COOPERATION, TO RECOGNIZE POSITIVE ATTITUDE OF GOP AND TO MAINTAIN GOOD ATMOSPHERE FOR BUNKER VISIT. UNLESS THERE ARE OBJECTIONS RELEASE WOULD BE MADE ABOUT NOON PANAMA TIME NOVEMBER 13.

2) I AM PLEASED THAT I HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT PANAMA AND TO DISCUSS WITH PRESIDENT LAKAS, GENERAL TORRIJOS AND FOREIGN MINISTER TACK MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. MY VISIT THIS TIME WAS PRIMARILY TO REVIEW THE OPERATIONS OF THE PANAMA CANAL COMPANY, FOR WHICH I HAVE RESPONSIBILITY AS SECRETARY OF THE ARMY. I WAS PLEASED TO NOTE THE CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE CANAL ORGANIZATION AND PANAMANIAN GOVERNMENT AGENCIES ON A BROAD RANGE OF ACTIVITIES IMPORTANT TO BOTH COUNTRIES. I WAS ALSO INTERESTED TO HEAR OF THE MANY JOINT TRAINING AND OTHER ACTIVITIES CARRIED ON BETWEEN THE GUARDIA NACIONAL AND THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES.

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SO I LEAVE HERE WITH A SENSE OF SATISFACTION ABOUT OUR

DAILY OPERATIONS, ALTHOUGH I AM VERY CONSCIOUS OF
LARGER ISSUES THAT AFFECT OUR CANAL TREATY RELATIONS
NOW BEING NEGOTIATED.
I AM MOST IMPRESSED WITH THE VIGOR AND GROWTH OF
PANAMA. GENERAL TORRIJOS AND I TALKED ABOUT HIS EFFORTS
TO PROMOTE THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF HIS
PEOPLE. I KNOW THAT THE UNITED STATES IS COOPERATING
IN THESE EFFORTS. THE SUCCESS OF THESE EFFORTS OVER THE
LAST FEW YEARS IS EVIDENT IN THE GROWTH AND SOCIAL
TRANQUILLITY IN PANAMA AND WE CAN ALL FIND SATISFACTION
IN SUCH AN ENCOURAGING SITUATION.
SAYRE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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TAGS: PFOR, PN, (BUNKER)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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